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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/826,471	04/16/2004	Mutsumi Hosoya	ASA-5025	1494

24956 7590 12/04/2006

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.
1800 DIAGONAL ROAD
SUITE 370
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EXAMINER

PATEL, NIKETA I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2181

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response to Rule 312 Communication	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/826,471	HOSOYA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Niketa I. Patel	2181	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

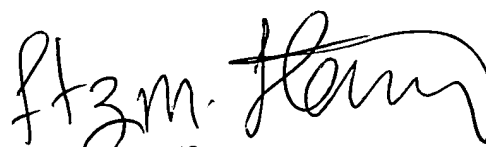
1. ☒ The amendment filed on 12 October 2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

- a) ☐ entered.
- b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
- c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

- d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.
- e) ☒ entered in part. See explanation below.

The amendment to claims 1-2 and 8-21 changes the scope of the claimed invention and therefore will not be entered. The newly added limitations change the scope of the claims by introducing plurality of interfaces to each of which a host computer or a disk drive is to be coupled. The newly added limitation of "each of adapters including" in claims 1 and 8 introduces improper antecedent bases; the phrase should recite 'each of said adapters including' since various types of adapters are already introduced in the claims. Applicant has not provided any remarks/arguments as to how these amendments are related to the form of the claims and not to the scope of the claims. Furthermore, page 8 of the amendment lists claim 21 as a pending claim and page 9 lists claim 21 as being canceled. The amendment to figures 16-20, which adds the 'PRIOR ART' label, will be entered.


 FRITZ FLEMING
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

11/27/2006